

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Kinya AOTA, et al.
Serial No.: Not Yet Assigned
Filed: December 12, 2005
Title: Friction Stirring-Welding Method

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 CFR 1.97 & 1.98

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

December 12, 2005

Sir:

In the matter of the above-identified application, applicants are submitting herewith a copy of the documents listed in the attached form equivalent to Form PTO/SB/08A for the Examiner's consideration.

This information disclosure statement is being submitted with the new application.

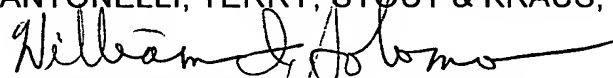
To the extent that the documents listed on the attached form equivalent to Form PTO/SB/08A are not in the English language, the requirement of 37 CFR 1.98(a)(3) for a concise explanation of the relevance is satisfied by an English abstract, International Search Report and/or the discussion of these documents in the specification.

It is respectfully requested that this information disclosure statement be considered by the Examiner.

Please charge any shortage in the fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including excess claim fees, to Deposit Account No. 01-2135 (500.45682X00), and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT <i>(Use as many sheets as necessary)</i>		Complete if Known	
		Application Number	
		Filing Date	December 12, 2005
		First Named Inventor	Kinya AOTA et al.
		Art Unit	
Examiner Name			
Sheet 1 of 1	Attorney Docket Number	500.45682X00	

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials ¹	Cite No. ¹	Document Number		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code ² (if known)				
		US-				
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials ¹	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ –Number ⁴ –Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
		JP 2001-314981	11/13/2001	Mazda Motor Corp.		Abs
		JP 2000-153374	06/06/2000	Hitachi Ltd.		Abs
		GB 2,306,366	05/07/1997	The Welding Institute		Abs
		JP 2002-66760	03/05/2002	Mazda Motor Corp.		Abs
		JP 2001-314982	11/13/2001	Kawasaki Heavy Ind. Ltd. Mazda Motor Corp.		Abs
		JP 10-230376	09/02/1998	Showa		Abs
		JP 2002-126881	5/08/2002	Kawasaki Heavy Ind Ltd		Abs
		JP 2003-136256	5/14/2003	Mazda Motor Corp		Abs
		JP 2001-321967	11/20/2001	Sumitomo Light Metal Ind Ltd		Abs
		JP 2003-260573	9/16/2003	Kawasaki Heavy Ind Ltd		Abs
		JP 2004-174508	6/24/2004	Kawasaki Heavy Ind Ltd		Abs

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. 1 Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). 2 See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. 3 Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). 4 For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. 5 Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. 6 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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